

BACKGROUND

The Marine Biotechnology ERA-NET (ERA-MBT) is a consortium of national funding agencies seeking complementarities between national activities by pooling resources to undertake joint funding of transnational projects in the area of Marine Biotechnology. The activities will support the development of the European bioeconomy.

During the life-time of the project, **three thematic calls** will be launched to generate joint European research and development activities in marine biotechnology.

CALL FOCUS

The aim of the first Joint Call is to bring together basic, applied, technology and market driven research approaches to enhance and **develop efficient and sustainable biorefinery processes for marine bioresources**. Transnational research consortia from academia, research institutes and industry are invited to submit proposals that develop new and/or improved biotechnological knowledge, tools and methods for the sustainable processing of marine biomass into a variety of bio-based products and/or services. This is best achieved through integrated biorefinery processes ideally utilising all molecular fractions present in the relevant biomass.

ELIGIBILITY

- Transnational consortia eligible for funding must consist of a **minimum of three partners** from at least **three different countries** participating in this call.
- Eligible organisations from other countries (not involved in the call) can participate as long as they provide their **own funds**.
- Applicants must refer and adhere to the **specific regulations** of the national/regional funding organisations.
- The general scope and limitations of the call are discussed in more detail in the **call documents** at www.marinebiotech.eu/first-transnational-call

FUNDING COMMITMENT

An indicative budget of around € 8 million is available for the first Joint Call. Each participating funding organisation will finance the beneficiaries located in their own country/region. The call text will include details of individual budget allocation.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Submissions of proposals will be in two stages: all **pre-proposals** will be reviewed and qualified projects will be invited to submit a **full proposal**.

Proposals can be submitted through the ERA-MBT **online submission system**:

www.submission-marinebiotech.eu

Project partners can use the **partnering platform** within the submission system to enter offers and requests for project ideas and build up a project consortium.

TIMELINE

Official Call Opening	20 October 2014
Deadline for pre-proposals	10 December 2014
Invitation for full proposals	27 February 2014
Deadline for full proposals	30 April 2015
Deadline International Evaluation Panel	End of June 2015
Funding decision	End of July 2015
Starting date of projects	End of 2015 / Beginning of 2016

